

From: Jared Kidd
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/23/02 1:09pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

First of all, I am NOT happy with the proposed settlement for this case. Most of the terms in this look like things that any company should follow anyway. Microsoft pushes as far as they can and when "slapped on their hands" and told to back down they do so for a little while and then push again to see how far they can go this time. This settlement seems to put them back in their place and hold them there for a while. So where is the punishment? Microsoft has damaged this industry by suppressing innovation and competition, and slowly twisting standards so they will be on top with the only software that supports the "standards (according to MS)" correctly. And while all this is going on Microsoft buys some 3D patents from sgi (<http://www.theregister.co.uk/content/54/23708.html>). I know that SGI were the ones to sell them but anyone who is into 3D graphics and gaming would start to wonder what MS means to do with these patents. My guess would be to crush OpenGL, which is used on many platforms in favor of their DirectX/3D, which only works on Microsoft operating systems. They should be punished in a way that doesn't further their monopoly.

I am not running Windows as my main operating system on my home PC but with the new ".NET" junk and them forcing it down our throats I fear that someday there will no longer be any alternative operating systems. So I sincerely ask that you rethink the settlement and come up with a more effective plan that will hopefully restore and sustain our freedom of choice.